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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

The Tahrik-i-Jadid

Monthly

RABWAH, W. PAKISTAN

Editor : **NASEEM SAIFI**

Vol. I SEPTEMBER 1965, Jamadi ul Awal 1385 No. 2

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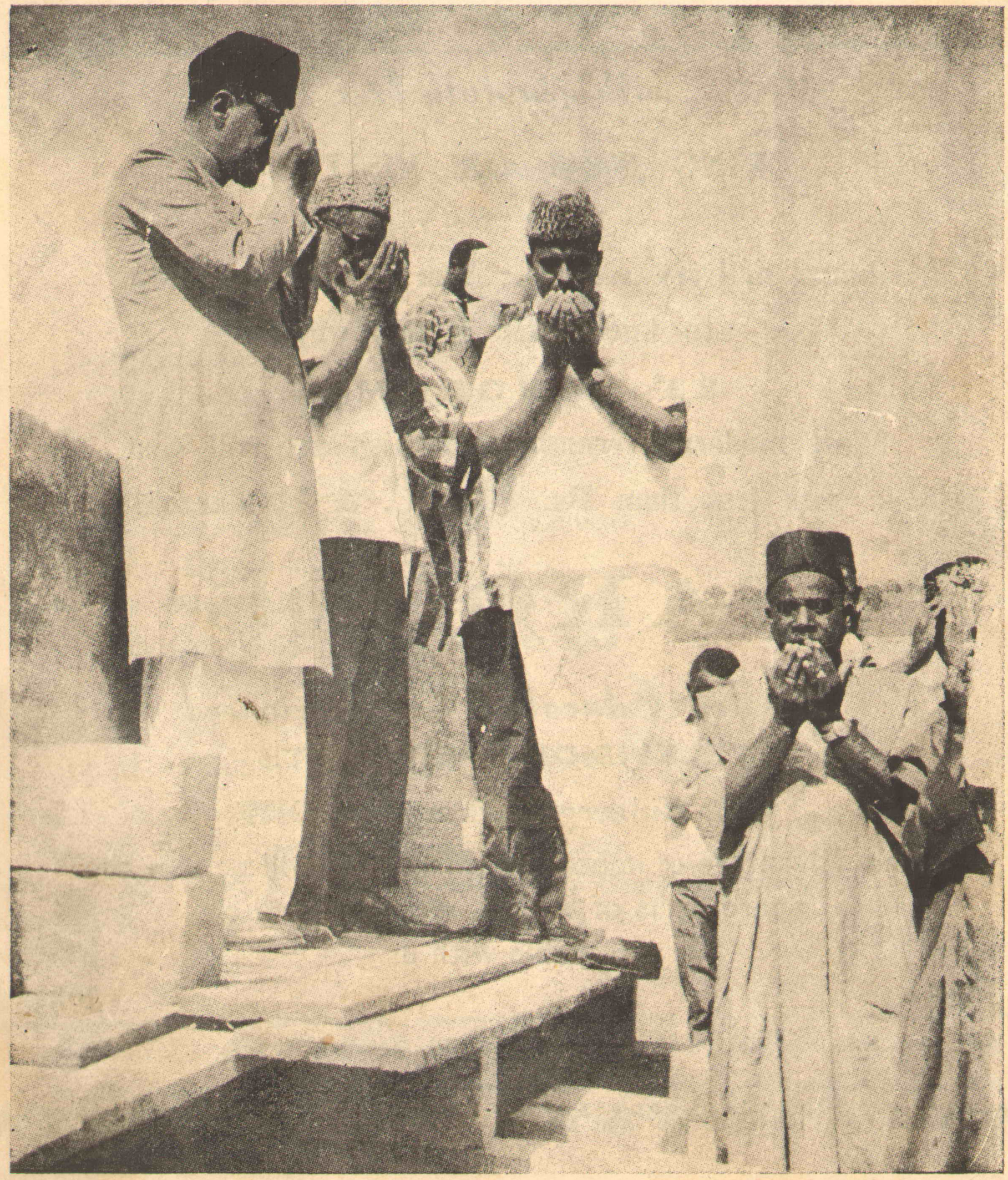

Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad leading a silent prayer after laying the foundation stone of a Mosque in Sierra Leone during his recent tour of West Africa.

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The Tahrik-i-Jadid Monthly

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JOURNAL OF THE

Tahrik-i-Jadid Anjuman Ahmadiyya (Pakistan)

Vol. I | SEPTEMBER 1965, Jamadi ul Awal 1385 | No. 2

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ONE FAITH

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"God the Excellent has informed me again and again that He will grant glory and will instil my love into the hearts of the people and will cause my Movement to spread in the entire world and will make my Sect supreme above all other Sects and members of my Sect shall attain to such excellence in knowledge and learning that by the light of their truth and by the dint of their arguments and signs, they will confound all. Every nation will drink of this fountain and this Movement will grow and prosper, so that finally it will encompass the whole world.

"Many obstacles will be encountered and many trials will come. But God will remove all of them from the way and will fulfil His promise. And God spoke to me saying: "I will shower blessings upon blessings on you so much so that kings (and heads of states) will seek blessings from thy clothing." So, O ye who hear, remember these words and keep these prophecies secure in your boxes, for, it is the word of God which must one day come to pass."

"O mankind! hearken, this is the prophecy of God Who made the Heavens and the Earth. He will spread this Movement in all the countries and will give it supremacy over all through reason and argument. Remember, no one will descend from heaven. All our opponents who are living at present will die and not one of them will see Jesus, son of Mary, descend from the sky and then their children who survive them will also pass away and none of them will see Jesus, son of Mary, coming down from the heaven. Generations of their posterity will also perish and they too will not see the son of Mary descending from heaven. Then God will create restlessness in their hearts; that the day of the glory of the Cross had passed away and the world had taken another turn but Jesus, son of Mary, had still not come down from the sky. Then all the wise people will discard this belief and the third century from today will not have completed when all those who had been waiting for Jesus, both Muslims and Christians, will despair of his coming and, entertain misgivings and shall give up their belief and there will be only one Faith in the world and one preceptor. I came only to sow the seed. The seed has been sown by my hand. It will now grow and blossom forth and none dare retard its growth.

(Tazkira-tush-Shahadatain)

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ISLAM MARCHES ON

The West African tour of the Vakil-i-A'la was a huge success. The Communities there were overjoyed to see the man on whose shoulders lies the responsibility of running the Foreign missions and they did express their joy in every possible way they could. To all of them, without any exception, it was an occasion of re-dedication for the service of Islam.

It is most gratifying to note that the members of the Ahmadiyya Communities in those far off lands are behind nobody in serving Islam and their fellowbeings. The social and educational progress of the Muslims which was a pre-requisite for the political advancement of those territories was given momentum by the local Ahmadiyya Communities. In fact in most of the places there, it is the Ahmadis who started the schools and opened the gates of progress and prosperity for all. And it is still more gratifying to note that the generality of the Muslims has never withheld its appreciation of all the work that the Ahmadis have done there. And perhaps it can be said without any fear of refutation that the appreciation and co-operation from the generality of the Muslims is one of the factors which have gone long way to speed up the efforts of our Mission. Isn't there a lesson for the Muslims of other territories? Only those who seek their own self-aggrandisement and not the glory of Islam, would like to keep away from the active servants of Islam.

Islam is not the monopoly of any of the Sects or Jamaats. It belongs to all of us and all of us must serve it as best we can. Then why not to co-operate with one another, or at least appreciate those who have staked all in this all-important task.

The tour also helped the Vakil-i-A'la see for himself the great need of reinforcing the Missions already working there. West Africa is rightly considered to be the final battlefield where the victory of Islam will give this noble religion the dominant position in the world which rightly and justifiably belongs to it according to the prophecies made by the Holy Prophet of Islam, peace and blessing of God be upon him. It is hoped that very soon measures will be taken to send more men and materials to the areas where they are needed most—and most urgently.

We pray to God that those who are already working in the field and keeping the flag of Islam flying high, God bless their efforts and produce the best of the results. Amen.

Notes & Comments

A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT

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Half a century ago A. P. Atterbury asserted in his book 'Islam in Africa' that "Islam in Africa will be comparatively easy for Christianity."

And indeed at that time it did seem as if Islam's edifice was crumbling down like a pack of cards. The Muslims were increasingly feeling a sense of defeatism and even the learned among them were turning over to the religion of the Cross. Africa and India were the easy prey for Christendom.

But then something happened. God, the Almighty, raised the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, to revitalise and strengthen Islam. The tide began to turn, with the result that the Christians now tend to forget what their hopes were and what indeed was the stuff of which their hopes were made.

Rude Paret writing in his book *Die Welt des Islam und die Gergerwant* (translation by Dr. Rafiq Ahmad of the Central Institute of Islamic Research, Karachi here quoted from *The Islamic Studies* of March 1964) says: "In the last 150 years, innumerable missionaries of the Protestant and Catholic confessions have with the greatest of personal sacrifice and at considerable expenditure tried to win over members of the Islamic community to Christianity. No one would dispute, however, that the results in proportion to the expense of material and spiritual resources and in proportion to time have been minimal, so that even today there is no prospect of moving any number of Muslims which would be worth consideration to the acceptance of the Christian faith."

We do not agree that the Christian priests have had no considerable success during the last 150 years. Ofcourse, their success has become negligent since the claim of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him.

As for their success we only need to refer to the Barrows Lectures which were delivered in 1896-97 by John Henry Barrows and later on published, in a book form, under the title : Christianity—the worldwide Religion. He said:

"I might sketch the movement in Mussulman lands, which has touched with the radiance of the Cross the Lebanon and the persian mountains. as well as the waters of Bosphorus, and which is sure harbinger of the day when Cairo and Damascus and Teheran shall be the servants of Jesus, and when even the solitudes of Arabia shall be pierced, and Christ in the person of his disciples, shall enter the Kaaba of Mecca and the whole truth shall at last be there spoken. This is eternal life that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent."

He even ventured to say:

> "But all the progress which the nineteenth century has achieved, appears to many Christians but a faint prophecy of the Christian victories which await the twentieth".

Lyndon P. Harries says:

"At the beginning of the present century Christian writers were asserting that Islam is nothing without politcal power, and that for this reason Islam in Africa would not survive. No one can seriously believe this now. The challenge remains, and indeed is more

formidable because of the cross current of political life." *(Islam in East Africa)*

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And S.G. Williamson of the University College, Ghana said a few years ago, "In Ashanti and the southern parts of the Gold Coast, Christianity to the present time holds the advantage. But in some parts of the south, particularly along the coast, the Ahmadiyya Movement is making great gains. The popular hope that the Gold Coast would soon become Christian is in greater danger than we think. ..... That there is a challenge cannot be doubted. It is not yet decided whether the cross or the crescent shall rule over Africa."
(Christ to Mohammad)

The fact remains that sixty to seventy years ago the Muslims were not in a position to hold fast to their religion. Many of them went over to Christianity. But since the advent of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, the position has changed and the Christians themselves have started saying that "there is no prospect of moving any number of Muslims which would be worth consideration to the acceptance of the Christian faith."

A great achievement for the Ahmadiyya Community, indeed.

A SOCIAL REVOLUTION

A social revolution is going on in the world. The old values are crumbling and the new emerging. Even the 'great' religions are backing out, for, they feel that the tide of this social revolution cannot be stemmed, whereas stemmed it must be if those religions have to take another lease of life

Rev. Robert F. Clark, Administrative Assistant to the Papal volunteers for Latin America has published a letter in the Time—weekly newsmagazine of America, which runs thus :

"The average Latin American today is concerned, not with religious labels, but with better living standards, educational opportunity and full employment. At best, religion is but a sideshow to life. For Catholic and Protestant missionaries to concentrate on evangelization (July 23) is thus to miss the point. In the long run, Christianity in Latin America will be relevant only to the degree that it becomes identified with the contemporary social revolution. The Catholic church has begun to realise this. By lending technical and professional assistance to church-sponsored programmes of social reform, Papal Valunteers are witnessing to the fact that Christ came not to save souls, but to love men."

The fact is that the only religion that does not yield ground, however great the social (or any other) revolution, is Islam. It does not say at one stage that it has come to save the souls and, at another stage, that it has come to love men. It has really come to guide mankind. That is what it has always done and that is what it will always do.

Is it not gratifying to note that whereas the Catholics (perhaps the staunchest Christians) have come to realise that evangelization is missing the point, Islam, through the efforts of the Missionaries of the Tahrik-i-Jadid (and the grace of God) is winning converts at an unprecedented speed.

This definitely is the Age of the victory of Islam and blessed are those who partake in the Jihad that the Tahrik-i-Jadid is carrying on so nobly and so successfully. You may already be doing your best, but a little more can always be added. Please make up your mind to do that, and may God be with you in your righteous endeavours. Amen.

EVERY 100 YEARS

It is easier to understand things by comparison. At least that is the way which leads us to the realisation of relevant significance of things. Islam was ushered into the world more than thirteen centuries ago. But the code of life which it presented at that time still remains unsuperseded and it will always remain so, for, Islam is a revealed religion and it is meant for all the peoples of the world in all the times to come. Men may come and men may go, times may change as much as they possibly can, but the code of life presented by Islam will ever remain the best. What was not admitted by others yesterday, is now readily admitted and what the people are hesitant to admit today will most definitely be admitted tomorrow. It is only a question of time and a matter of more liberal thinking.

And that is not the case with the code of life alone. The wisdom of Islam envelops every sphere and walk of life, be it individual or community life.

For example look at this case. The Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of God be upon him, prophesied that God would raise someone to revive the religion of Islam at the end of every century i. e. after every one hundred years. The question could arise : why "one hundred years". There had never existed anything like that before that reformers should appear after every one hundred years.

But the fact is that human society is such that it really finds some changes, desirable or undesirable, to have crept into it in that much length of period.

The Christians have just recently realised the importance of a century in connection with the revival of religion.

The Time, weekly newsmagazine of the U.S.A. recently said (August 31, 1962) :

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"The Old Tastament translators are aware of the criticism against the New Testament but Driver defends the efforts to produce a new Bible. "The Job has to be re-done every 100 years or so, he says, "You have got to meet the speech of that generation. What we have to do is to persuade the back country men that beautiful as it is, the old version is often nonsense".

Whether it is to meet the speech or otherwise, this is quite true that religion needs revival every 100 years and God, very graciously, promised the Muslims that He would give them a Reformer every 100 years who would revive their religion for them.

What a great Grace of God and what a good luck of the Muslims.

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A Letter to Dr. Nkrumah

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The Vakil-i-A'la, Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, addressed the following letter to Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, President of the Republic of Ghana, on his arrival back in Pakistan from an extensive tour of West Africa. It is worth mentioning here that Dr. Nkrumah is a great admirer of all those who are trying to build up Ghana in one way or the other. One of his ambitions is to raise the educational standard to the highest pitch at the earliest possible time and he has very great regard for the Ahmadiyya Mission in his country because of its untiring efforts to further the cause of education, especially among the Muslim population. The first Ahmadiyya Muslim school in Ghana was started by the late Alhaj Maulvi F.R. Hakeem in the early twenties. Since then the Ahmadiyya educational programme has made great strides.

TEXT OF THE LETTER

Dear Mr. President,

I have arrived back in Pakistan safely and I am glad to say that all is well here.

My stay in Ghana was indeed quite pleasant and please permit me to say that your kindness contributed a lot to my happiness there. You were very considerate to have presented to me—and to my Secretary—a copy of your valuable autographed book. I can assure you that I will always treasure this lovely present and it will keep your memory fresh in my mind.

My prayers and good wishes are with you and please rest assured that my Community will always do all it can to further the cause of Ghana.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely
Mirza Mubarak Ahmad

September, 1965

DO YOU KNOW ?

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Following is a list of the newspapers published by our Missions abroad.

The Truth - English weekly—the only Muslim paper in Nigeria and until our other Missions started the newspapers in West Africa, this was the only Muslim paper in the whole of West Africa.

The Guidance. English monthly—the only Muslim paper in Ghana.

African Crescent. English monthly—Sierra Leone.

East African Times. English monthly.

Mapenzi ya Mungu Swahili monthly—very popular in East Africa.

Le Message. English and French monthly from Mauritius.

The Message. English monthly from Ceylon.

Sinar Islam. Monthly from Indonesia.

Der Islam. German monthly from Germany

Muslim Herald. English monthly from London.

Al-Islam. Dutch monthly from Holland.

Aktive Islam. Danish monthly from Denmark.

It will certainly interest the readers to know that in addition to these newspapers that are published by our Missions, some of our Missionaries make very good use of the secular press also. They write weekly columns on religion and thus get a good opportunity of expounding the theory and practice of Islam for the benefit of all. G. F. Parrinder, a Christian writer of fame, recently admitted that because of these newspapers and columns the Ahmadiyya Missions are very vocal.

The Radio also serves the Community to a very large extent. From various Radio Stations our Missionaries give talks on different aspects of Islamic teachings and make use of the writings of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, as well as other writers of the Community.

In some places, some regular programmes like the Islamic Point of View have been conducted by our Missionaries for years and that has given them a good chance of serving the Muslims at large.

The Ahmadiyya Missionaries are now well known for giving talks to the Colleges and Universities and invariably these talks have proved to be of immense value.

The television has also not been left out. Quite often some of our Missionaries face the television audience to explain to them what Islam is and what is the significance of the Ahmadiyya Movement in the whole set up of Islam and the Muslims.

In short our Missions are doing all they possible can to project the image of Ahmadiyyat to as large an audience as the newspapers, radio and television provide.

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European Ahmadi Muslims Confer

We are running Missions in various European countries and during the last decade four mosques have been built in their metropolises. Every year, all the missionaries of Europe sit together at any one place and review the activities of the past and plan for the coming year.

This year the Missionaries Conference was held on August 5, and 6 in London. At the Conference, annual reports of the Missions were presented and reviewed. The agenda of the Confrence was thoroughly discussed and far reaching decisions were made.

Last year a novel suggestion was made that European Ahmadis—not missionaries—should gather at one place and cement their bond of Islamic brotherhood. The matter was put before the Centre which was approved. This year this Convention was synchronised with the European Missionaries Conference in the first week of August. The programme of this Convention included Recitations from the Holy Quran, speeches by the delegates on various aspects of Islam, excursions and picnics. We are still awaiting detailed reports of this Convention but cable reports say that 25 delegates from all over the Continent participated in this gathering.

Ch. Mohammad Zafrullah Khan. Judge of the International Court of Justice, was kind enough to take part in this Convention and gave his valuable help and advice whenever required. He presided over its sessions, too, on various occasions.

This was the first occasion when the various European Ahmadis gathered and thus fostered their brotherly relations. It has been decided that this kind of Convention should be held every year but at a different place. We would like to quote a sentence of Imam Mushtaq Ahmad Bajwa, Secretary, European Missionaries Conference, who has forwarded his initial report about the Conference. This sentence throws a great deal of light on the deliberations and effects of the Conference. He concludes his report thus :

> "Chaudhri Sahib concluded the sermon with touching words which drew tears from many eyes and went a long way to cement the brotherhood, which was an aim of this Convention."
>
> (Tabshir)

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Contact the World

The Ahmadiyya Jamaat has its Missions all over the world. In some places the membership runs into thousands.

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INTRODUCING TABSHIR PUBLICATIONS

Invitation to Ahmadiyyat.

Invitation to Ahmadiyyat is an English reproduction of *Da'watul-Amir*, an epistle written in Urdu by Hazrat Mirza Bashir-ud-Din Mahmud Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih II, the present Head of the Ahmadiyya Movement, and presented in Persian to Amanullah Khan, the then ruler of Afghanistan. The epistle was in the best tradition of evangelisation which at all times in history has used this medium of exposition for the benefit of earthly rulers and their subjects.

The present epistle had acquired special significance from the fact that in about two years before its presentation three Afghan Ahmadis had been stoned to death by the orders of Amanullah Khan. These tragic events made it necessary that the message, aims, and rationale, of the Ahmadiyya Movement be expounded for the special attention of the then King. The events and epistle now belong to history, but their significance not only survives, it keeps increasing in its impact and influence. No wonder, *Da'watul-Amir* has seen many editions since it was first published.

The book is an authoritative exposition of the claim of the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement as the Messiah and Restorer of Islam long promised for our time. It is an invitation to all and sundry to join the evangelical effort on behalf of Islam., by the Founder (d. 1908) and carried on loyally and successfully by his successors.

The introductory part of the book Preliminaries—dismisses many current misconceptions and sets forth clearly and persuasively what Ahmadi Muslims really believe and teach about Jesus Christ, the Messiah of Israel, about the Promised Messiah, the continuity of revelation, Khatm-i-Nubuwwat, Jehad and so on; all of these living themes of Contemporary Islam and most vital to its future.

(Tabshir)

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RABWH, WEST PAKISTAN.

WHAT THEY SAY

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The wind of change is blowing everywhere and everybody is getting conscious of it. Not least of all, the Christians who see Islam pushing forword and replacing Christianity. The World Christian Digest recently said :

"Islam's bid to win Africa is also aided by Pakistan's ablest leader, Chaudhry Mohammad Zafrullah Khan, now a justice of the World Court. He stated at an Ahmadiyya Conference held last year that while African political chains are falling off, its spiritual bondage is still largely untouched. He also stated that while Moslems lack the funds which are available to Christian missionaries they possess potent advantages in the simplicity of Islamic teaching and in its practice of brotherhood. His appeal for increased missionary activity included a call to Moslems to help Africa meet its need for schools and teachers. Christian missions, already in difficulty in Africa, must move wisely and vigorously in that continent if they are to meet the Moslem challenge."

"Freidenker," a Swiss paper had the following to say :

"In spite of all the self-assuring talk of the feeling of inner security of a Christian, the Christian Churches do not seem to be relieved of their worries ! New worries continue to add to the old ones. One of these new worries is now Islam, to be more exact, today the truly aggressive Islam.

"We are astonished and reflect on the history of the past centuries when Islam advanced from the East by way of the Balkan upto Vienna, when it kept occupied in the West the whole of North Africa and Spain and advanced over the Pyreness onto the heart of Valais (Switzerland) when it seized in its claw the Christian Europe from the West and the East. Is there really any danger today as before, of something like the "Turkish Emergency" or the "Turkish Danger"?

"No. Certainly not that ! There are no enemies of the Saracen today running against the ageing Europe, with the twisted sabre flourishing. The weapons of attack have become more subtle, but nonetheless effective than the twisted sabre. The offensive of Islam in our day lies in the irresistible advance of the Muslim Mission especially in Asia and Africa. The Mission of Islam is gaining ever greater foothold in these two continents and getting more and more energetic. It is here that it makes the work of Christian Mission difficult and the life sour.

"Yet Islam is not at all satisfied with these missionary successes ; it boldly marches towards the heart of "Christian" Europe and is doing missionary work also here in our midst. The Christian Church is extremely disturbed and feels to be challenged".

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BOOK REVIEW

Jesus did not die on the cross by Maulana Abul Ata, Formerly Principal, Ahmadiyya Muslim Missionary College, Rabwah (p 12) price 20 paisas, obtainable from the Maktaba al-Furqan, Rabwah.

Although the death of a person on the cross cannot, by itself, prove anything but the Christians have woven an all important belief around the supposed death of Jesus on the cross and therefore it matters a lot if it is proved that Jesus did not die there. The Christians argue that the "fall" of Adam brought sin into the world making every descendant of Adam a sinner. The wages of this sin are death and none can escape it unless he has paid for this original sin with his life. God, no doubt, is merciful, they say, but He is also Just and therefore even though He may like to forgive man, He cannot do that. The solution, according to the Christians, is that He sent His only begotten son to die for mankind. That son was Jesus Christ and he died on the cross. This death on the cross, therefore, redeems mankind of its original sin which entered into the world through the fall of Adam.

If, therefore, it is proved that Jesus did not die on the cross the whole idea of the original sin and redemption of man through Jesus' death on the cross would crumble to the ground.

Maulana Abul Ata has put forward TEN arguments from the Bible itself to prove that Jesus did not die on the cross.

In a nutshell those ten arguments are: (1) Jesus had prophesied to show the sign of Jonah and that meant that just as Jonah went into the belly of the whale alive, so also would Jesus go into the heart of the earth alive. The obvious conclusion is that if this prophecy was to be fulfilled, Jesus should not have died on the cross. (2) Pilate's wife had a dream about the good character of Jesus and she sent word to her husband to have nothing to do with him. (3) The Roman Governor's attitude towards Jesus was sympathetic. (4) Pilate was anxious to save Jesus Christ from the cross. (5) Jesus was on the cross for such a short time that it could not have caused death. (6) When a spear was pierced into the side of Jesus, blood and water came out. (7) There are no eye-witnesses of the death of Jesus on the cross. (8) Jesus had a mission to fulfil towards the lost sheep of the house of Israel. In order to fulfil this mission, he must seek and save them. (9) Jesus was to overcome his enemies, which is possible only if he escapes death on the cross. (10) Jesus had prayed that he should not die on the cross and his prayer had been heard.

These ten arguments conclusively prove that Jesus did not die on the cross.

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by

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ADVENT OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH

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Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II

All the great promises, made by God for our time, are linked with the coming of the Promised Messiah. Islam is to have a new lease of life through him. A tree which begins to die for drought becomes green again if rain comes in good time. So is the dead and dry tree of Islam certain to become green again with the coming of the Promised Messiah.

A new power and a new spirit will be granted to those who join the Promised Messiah. Long had God borne with patience what He has seen. He has remained a silent Witness, but He will remain so no longer. He can permit no more that a mere man, a creature of His, should be made an associate with Him; that those who take Jesus for a son of God or believe him to be alive in Heaven, or think he was able to raise the physically dead to life or that he could create, should continue to do so. True, God is Merciful, but He is also Jealous of His Own Uniqueness and Oneness. He waited and waited for men to turn to His Holy Book, but they only turned away from it. They became interested in other things and paid little attention to the Book of God. They forgot the warning contained in the Holy Book itself:

يا رب ان قومی اتخذوا هذا القرآن
مهجوراً .

"O my Lrod, my people indeed treated this Quran as (a thing) abandoned."
(*Al-Furqan 31*)

They abandoned the Book of God and turned to other things. Little wonder, God abandoned them and turned away from them. He will not turn to them now until they declare, putting their hand in the hand of the Promised Messiah, that no longer will they show inattention and indifference to the Holy Book, that they will make up for past neglect and past mistakes. They loved the world but did not love God. Then did God wrest the world from them, and humiliate them. They professed to be Muslims, yet they buried the last beloved of God under ground, but raised the Messiah of Nazareth alive to Heaven. God too made them low on earth and installed Christians as rulers over them. Their condition now will not change unless they agree to reform. Political schemes and plans can avail but little. The degradation of Muslims is the res ılt of the anger of God. Unless Muslims make peace with God they will only go under. Blessed, therefore, is he who hastens to make peace with God. He will be saved from humiliation and disgrace. The Help of God will be with him and the Hand of God will steer him out of difficulties.

TELLING OTHERS

It is but natural that you should be anxious to tell others what the Ahmadiyya Community is doing for Islam all over the world. Show this magazine to your friends. Still better, subscribe to it on their behalf. It is only Rs 1.50 for one full year.

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Establish Honesty & Justice

One of the greatest needs of all the times has been that the lower class should be made secure against the oppression of the upper class. That the classes will always be there cannot be denied, for, every man is an individual and his capabilities and capacities are most certainly different from others. We see rich losing their wealth and becoming poor while the poor struggle hard and go up the ladder. God says in the Holy Quran that is how He rotates the days i.e. changes the circumstances of the people.

And if classes have to be there, the danger of oppression will always loom large. The solution lies in nothing but a determination on the part of some people to see that the lower class is not made to suffer at the hands of those who are better placed than they are.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen says that once he had a vision wherein he was telling his children that if they also pledged themselves to save the oppressed people from the clutches of the oppressors, as was the case with those who had called their pledge ' Hilful Fazool ' their lives would never go waste, rather God would shower His blessings on them.

Referring to this vision he says: "Only God knows whether by children is meant my physical children or the people of the Community, for, the members of the Community are also spiritual children.

"The fact is that this is one of the very great and important virtues in this Age. We see the rich are 'robbing' the poor and in fact they take pleasure in doing so. Perhaps that is why God has drawn my attention towards it. If it is my physical children who are referred to in this vision, then I ask them to pledge their services to the oppressed and if it is the Community that is meant by the children shown in the vision, I ask the Community to do the same; they should pledge to establish honesty and justice.

"Were a few people to get up and make up their mind that they would neither usurp the rights of others nor allow others to do that, then these people would, in the sight of God be Adams of honesty, and Adams of justice and equity.

"May God enable my spiritual children to make this pledge that they would never suppress the rights of others nor would allow others to do that. Whenever they see somebody usurping the right of others, they should intervene and see that the right is restored to its owner, just what the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of God be upon him, did in going to Abu Jahl for the right of somebody who complained to him against Abu Jahl. I should like some members of our Community to pledge their services for the establishment of honesty and justice and I should like them to be prepared to intervene, whether they are asked to do so or not, if someone usurps the right of his fellowbeing."

What a virtuous wish of Hazrat Amirul Momineen it is. Are you trying to establish honesty and restore the rights to those to whom they rightly belong?

Have a heart to heart talk with your Editor. Write to him as often as you can. Your letters will always be welcome.

The Promised Messiah and Mahdi

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Combination of two Kinds of Blessings

Hazrat Ahmad, the Promised Messiah and Mahdi, peace be on him, claimed to have received what could be called the blessings connected with Jesus as well as the Holy Prophet Mohammad, peace and blessings of God be upon both of them, and that was what really made him 'Promised Messiah and Mahdi'. He was asked to prove that he had really and truly received these blessings. In fulfilment of this demand, Hazrat Ahmad, said,

"God the Almighty has, out of His grace and bounty proved these belssings to be in me. And I can assert with all the force at my command that the blessings of both these kinds have been combinedly given to me. The heavenly signs that have so far appeared far me also show the combination of the blessings of both the kinds. This is a well known fact that the specialities of the blessings connected with the Holy Prophet Mohammad are the spiritual secrets and greatest of the linguistic excellences and you can find a sample of them in my books. Since the publication of Brahin-i-Ahmadiyya, all the books that have appeared so far, contain excellent religious points vouchsafed to me by God despite the fact that I never had a teacher to teach me.

"The excellence of the Arabic language which is so conspicuously visible in my books, in spite of the fact that I never studied the Arabic literature, is simply matchless and none can produce the like of it. If any one dare try that, justice demands that he should, first of all, go through all of my books starting from Brahin-i-Ahmadiyya upto Faryad-i-Dard or Kitabul Balagh and he should keep all what is written in them in mind. Then he should go about searching for the books of others and let me know where he has found those things. If he does not find it possible to show the like of my writings, that would conclusively prove that the blessings connected with the Holy Prophet Mohammad, peace and blessings of God be upon him, have been vouchsafed to me in this age in a unique manner. And that is what necessarily makes me the Promised Mahdi. For, just as God, without any medium of human agency, vouchsafed these blessings to the Holy Prophet which made him Mahdi, i. e. the one who attained to perfection through the guidance of God and not of man, in the same way, God has vouchsafed these blessings to me directly without any human agency. This was one of the signs of the Promised Mahdi and, in fact, this is the very essence of one's being a Mahdi.

"So far as the blessings connected with Jesus are concerned and which actually mean relieving the people of their difficulties, through prayer and concentration, and to cleanse them of their maladies and to make them secure against hunger and be a source of blessings for them, I can rightly claim that the way I have done all these things is matchless in this age. God will show more of it and even the enemy will have to admit the truth of my claim.

"I repeat again and again that the blessings of these two kinds —

Vakil-i-A'la attends Ahmadiyya Conference in U.K.

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Advises members to give practical example of Islamic teachings

The Ahmadiyya Mission in the Great Britain held its Annual Conference in the last week of August. Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad, Vakil-A'la and Vakil-ut-Tabshir, flew from Karachi on the 27th of August to participate in this function.

The function was well attended and proved fruitful in many ways. In recent years, our Mission in the Great Britain has expanded greatly and quite a few new branches have been opened in the last five years. One of the branches—Southal—has the distinction of getting the foundation stone of its mosque being laid by Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad while on his way back from the West African tour in last May.

Our Mission in London which has been served by the great Ahmadiyya Missionaries like Ch. F. M. Sayal, Maulvi Farzand Ali, Maulana A. R. Dard, Maulana J. D. Shams and a host of others has always held a very important position in our foreign Missions.

The first Ahmadiyya Mosque in Europe was built in London—and it goes to the credit of Ahmadi women that it were they who donated the money for it.

Addressing the Conference, Sahibzada Sahib reminded the audience that living a life according to the precepts of one's faith was a very realistic and more effective method of preaching. He advised all the members of the Mission there to show to the people with whom they came in contact, the beauties of the teaching of Islam in a practical manner.

He also stressed the point that real and true presentation of Islam in this Age was possible only through the exposition made by the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, for, he had been raised in this Age to revive and revitalise Islam and to bring the world back to the doorstep of God.

Mr. B. A. Rafiq is the Missionary in charge of our Mission in the Great Britain. In addition to the missionary work, he is also editing the Muslim Herald, a monthly magazine, which is devoted to the cause of Islam.

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connected with Jesus as well as the Holy Prophet Mohammad — have been combined in me. I know it because of the knowledge that God has granted to me, that the way my prayers can be heard for the removal of the difficulties, the prayers of others cannot be heard the same way, and the spiritual and religious secrets that I can disclose, none other can do that. Even if the whole world were to join hands to test me in this claim of mine, they would find me getting an upper hand."

(Ayyamus Sulh)